



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 333

February Session, 2004

Substitute House Bill No. 5570

House of Representatives, March 30, 2004

The Committee on Labor and Public Employees reported through REP. RYAN, K. of the 139th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A CONNECTICUT STRATEGIC WORKFORCE PLAN.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established
2 within the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission a
3 Connecticut Strategic Workforce Plan Council. The council shall create
4 a strategic plan to review the development of workforce plans of those
5 state agencies that represent required partner programs identified in
6 Section 121(b) of the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, P.L.
7 105-220, as from time to time amended, and utilize data provided by
8 the commission to make recommendations about how those state
9 agencies can respond strategically to identified workforce needs and
10 occupational forecasts.

11 (b) The council shall consist of the following members:

12 (1) The Labor Commissioner and the Commissioners of Education,

13 Higher Education, Social Services and Economic and Community
14 Development, or their designees;

15 (2) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
16 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
17 relating to labor and public employees, education, higher education
18 and employment advancement, human services and commerce, or
19 their designees; and

20 (3) Four representatives of business and industry, who shall be
21 appointed as follows:

22 (A) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

23 (B) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

24 (C) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

25 (D) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
26 Representatives.

27 (c) All appointments to the council shall be made no later than thirty
28 days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled
29 by the appointing authority. The chairperson of the Connecticut
30 Employment and Training Commission shall select a chairperson for
31 the council. Members of the council shall receive no compensation for
32 their services but shall be reimbursed for any necessary expenses
33 incurred in the performance of their duties. The council shall convene
34 its first meeting not later than October 1, 2004.

35 (d) Not later than April 1, 2005, the council shall report its
36 recommendations for a Connecticut strategic workforce plan to the
37 Connecticut Employment and Training Commission.

38 (e) Not later than July 1, 2005, the Connecticut Employment and
39 Training Commission shall report, in accordance with the provisions of
40 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of
41 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor

42 and public employees, education, higher education and employment
43 advancement, human services and commerce on recommendations for
44 a Connecticut strategic workforce plan.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>

HED *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*

LAB

LAB *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 05 \$	FY 06 \$
Workforce Competitiveness, Off.	GF - Cost	Potential	Potential
Legislative Mgmt.	GF - Cost	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill establishes the Connecticut Strategic Workforce Plan Council within the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission (CETC) to create a strategic plan to review the development of workforce plans.

Members of the council shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. It is anticipated that state agency representation on the council will be able to do so within their existing duties. To the extent legislators are represented on the council, Legislative Management will incur minimal costs for legislator mileage reimbursement.

To the extent that the Office of Workforce Competitiveness would require additional support in assisting the council in carrying out the responsibilities of completing the strategic plan, a potential cost could result.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5570

**AN ACT CONCERNING A CONNECTICUT STRATEGIC
WORKFORCE PLAN****SUMMARY:**

This bill establishes the 29-member Connecticut Strategic Workforce Plan Council within the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission (CETC) to:

1. create a strategic plan to review the development of workforce plans for those agencies that are required partners in the one -stop delivery system established by the 1998 Workforce Investment Act (WIA) to provide comprehensive workforce development services and
2. use information the CETC provides to make suggestions on how the agencies can respond to workforce needs and occupational forecasts.

The bill requires the council to report its recommendations for the strategic plan to CETC by April 1, 2005 and requires CETC to report plan recommendations to the Labor and Public Employees, Education, Higher Education and Employment Advancement, Human Services, and Commerce committees by July 1, 2005.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

The council consists of:

1. The commissioners of labor, education, higher education, social services, and economic and community development, or their designees;
2. The chairpersons and ranking members of the Labor and Public Employees, Education, Higher Education and Employment Advancement, Human Services, and Commerce committees, or their designees; and
3. Four business representatives, one each appointed by the Senate

president pro tempore, the House speaker, and the House and Senate minority leaders.

The bill requires members to be appointed within 30 days after it takes effect. It allows the CETC chairperson to designate the chairperson for the council. Council members receive expense reimbursement for necessary expenses but no compensation for their services. It requires the council to hold its first meeting by October 1, 2004. Appointing authorities must fill any vacancies.

BACKGROUND

CETC

This commission plans, coordinates, and evaluates job training programs. The governor appoints its members, the majority of whom represent business and the remainder represent state and local governments, organized labor, education, and community-based organizations.

WIA and One-Stop Centers

WIA directs federal workforce development policy, provides funding for more coordination of various workforce-related programs, and requires each local workforce investment area, as designated by the governor, to have a one-stop center (29 U. S. C. § 2831). The centers offer job counseling, skills training, and job search assistance. They also provide businesses with recruiting services, job training for their employees, and related support.

WIA requires certain entities that carry out federally funded programs to participate as partners in the one-stop centers. Programs include WIA-authorized job training, vocational rehabilitation, adult education and literacy, welfare-to-work, senior community service employment, vocational education, and state unemployment compensation (29 U. S. C. § 2841 (b) and 20 C. F. R. § 662. 200).

While WIA expired in September of 2003, reauthorization is expected this year. Since WIA spending is discretionary, Congress does not need to pass temporary reauthorization for the legislation.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference

Yea 20 Nay 0

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 12 Nay 0